

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A storage system comprising a redundant array of multicast storage areas operable without using a distinct RAID controller.
2. (currently amended) The storage system of claim 1, wherein:
the multicast storage areas ~~devices~~ are adapted to communicate across a network via
~~encapsulated packets which are split-ID~~ packets comprising both an encapsulating
packet and an encapsulated packet; and
each ~~of any~~ split-ID packets also includes an identifier that is split such that a portion of the
identifier is obtained from the encapsulated packet while another portion is obtained
from a header portion of the encapsulating packet.
3. (original) The storage system of claim 1, wherein the storage areas of the redundant array
share a common multicast address.
4. (original) The storage system of claim 1, comprising a plurality of RAID sets wherein each
raid set comprises a plurality of storage areas sharing a common multicast address.
5. (currently amended) A network comprising a first device and a plurality of storage devices
wherein the first device stores a unit of data on each of the storage devices via a single multicast
packet without dependence upon a RAID controller.
6. (currently amended) A network of multicast devices which are operable without a RAID
controller, and which disaggregate at least one RAID function across multiple multicast
addressable storage areas.
7. (original) The network of claim 6 wherein the at least one RAID function is also
disaggregated across multiple device controllers.
8. (currently amended) A storage system comprising a redundant array of at least first and
second multicast storage areas, wherein the system supports auto-annihilation of mooted read
requests by disregarding such requests.

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~9-8~~ wherein auto-annihilation comprises a device that received a read request disregarding the read request if a response to the read request from another device is detected.

11. (currently amended) A storage system comprising a dynamic mirror usable without a RAID controller.

12. (original) The storage system of claim 11 wherein the dynamic mirror includes a mirrored storage area and at least one corresponding map of incomplete writes.

13. (original) The storage system of claim 11 wherein the dynamic mirror comprises N storage devices and M maps of incomplete writes where M is at least 1 and at most $2*N$.

14. (original) The storage system of claim 13 wherein the map comprises a set of entries wherein each entry is either an LBA or a hash of an LBA of a storage block of a storage area being mirrored.

15. (original) The system of claim 13 comprising at least one process monitoring storage area ACKs sent in response to write commands, the process updating any map associated with a particular area whenever a write command applicable to the area is issued, the process also sending an ACK on behalf of any storage area for which the process did not detect an ACK.

16. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~55-15~~ wherein updating a map comprises setting a flag whenever an ACK is not received and clearing a flag whenever an ACK is received.